

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Abstract of the Disclosure

There is described a process for the preparation of 5-carboxyphthalide, which comprises adding terephthalic acid to fuming sulfuric acid containing at least 20% of SO₃, then adding formaldehyde to the mixture, heating the mixture at a temperature of 120-145° C and isolating 5-carboxyphthalide from the reaction mixture.

10

15